

For some days, says the Baltimore Gazette, a rumor has been afloat that the Pennsylvania Central has obtained control of a majority of the shares of the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore railroad, and will thus have a monopoly of the travel between Washington and New York, and indeed between New York and the Gulf, as soon as the Baltimore and Potomac Road is completed.

It is quite certain, too, that control has been obtained of the road between Bristol and Chattanooga. By this means the Pennsylvania Central gets in the rear of the Southside Road and cuts off General Mahone's connections just as he cut off those of the Orange and Alexandria road.

The extensions of the Pennsylvania Central and the breadth of its schemes are wonderfully bold and almost incomprehensible. If the plans of Mr. Scott and Mr. Thompson are successful, this enormous corporation will control the country, do all the carrying business, dictate its own terms, establish its own banks, control all financial operations, and have such influence in the elections that it will elect its own President. We shall, indeed, then have a Railroad King; and before we know it, we shall have two parties contending for power upon issues new to the country.

**America's Example of Warning to England.**

There exists a general impression in England that the Queen is becoming physically and mentally incapable of discharging her official duties, and consequently men's minds turn towards a regency, and after a time a succession to the throne. There seems to be a large and growing republican party which avow their determination to change the form of the British government. We quoted the other day the utterance of Mr. Bradlaugh, one of its leaders. "She, the Queen, is the last monarch who shall sit on England's throne. The reigning family holds the throne, not by divine right, but by act of Parliament. We shall insist that this act shall be repealed and the republic set up."

No doubt the personal unpopularity of the Prince of Wales gives rise to much opposition to his accession to the throne. But unless the British nation are blinded by the fatal gods who first make mad whom they wish to destroy, they will find a better remedy than the establishment of a republic. As Mr. Bradlaugh remarks, what one Parliament has done another can undo; and it is perfectly within the power of Parliament to change the order or line of succession to the throne without sacrificing the monarchical principle, and without the least danger of civil war. The Prince of Wales, as a Pretender against the monarch chosen by the Parliament of the nation, could not rally a corporal's guard around him.

A few years ago we might have rejoiced at the progress of republican ideas in England, but a sad experience has modified our ideas. It is now thirty-five years since Queen Victoria came to the throne which she has nobly and worthily occupied. During that period England has been peaceful and prosperous. No civil wars have devastated her soil; no attempts have been made by the royal lady to extend her prerogative at the expense of the other branches of the government. On the contrary, the very limited amount of personal power and patronage allowed to the monarch by the Constitution of the country has diminished rather than increased.

During those thirty-five years England has been free from those maddening contests for office and spoils which have convulsed this land every four years; and as a consequence the public officers have been honest in the discharge of their duties, so that a public defaulter is almost unheard of. And in all that time the liberties of the nation have never been violated. The proclamation of martial law and the suspension of the *habeas corpus*, such as the American people now behold with indifference, would at any time cost Victoria her throne, and her ministers probably their heads.

In those thirty-five years, alas! what have we witnessed on this continent? Every four years a frenzied contest for power, that is to say, for spoils that were becoming every day more valuable. Hence the determination of those out of office to drive out the party that were in, upon any issues that would catch the public favor, whether they were for the good of the country or not. If free trade or protection would not answer, then slavery; for who can deny that the slavery agitation was, on the part of its leaders, nothing but a trick to get into power? And to what have these periodical contests led us? To the supremacy of demagogues who are and must always be more popular with ignorant masses than true patriots. To a sectional issue, unnecessarily forced upon a deluded people by ambitious politicians for their own selfish purposes. To a bloody civil war, ending in the destruction of the once fundamental principles of self-government, and the stultification of all former American history and traditions. To hasty and unstatesmanlike legislation, dictated by the passion of the moment, clothing the Executive power, of which our fathers were so justly jealous, with dictatorial powers in time of peace, and putting in his hand a double-edged sword, which will at no distant day destroy the paltry remnants of the liberties of the country. To a universal and unblushing corruption without its equal among civilized nations, which has transformed the Federal, State and City governments of nearly the whole country into a concatenation of *Rings of Thieves*, and has gangrened the whole body politic from the President—who speculates in gold corners and Seneca stone quarries, to the lowest policeman who blackmails a delinquent bar-room keeper.

Sum up the millions already known to have been stolen from the Southern States by carpet-bag governments—the twenty

additional millions just come to light, of which poor oppressed South Carolina has been robbed, the scores upon scores of millions stolen by government defaulters of every degree, the immense city frauds in New York, Philadelphia and other places, and it is by hundreds of millions that we must count the cost of our magnificent republican government. And where will be the limit if we add the land jobs, the fraudulent government claims, and the hundreds of millions extorted by an iniquitous tariff to fill the pockets of influential monopolists? Is corruption inseparable from universal suffrage and republican institutions? We would not dare to assert this, but those effects old monarchies, as it is the fashion to call them, are singularly free from it. We saw it stated a few days ago that the whole sum of defalcations by Prussian officials since the war began was nineteen thousand dollars, and that all the defaulters are in prison.

To this corrupt, rotten condition, has the whole American system of government come since the day that Victoria ascended the British throne. And what is the prospect for the future? That the holders of the spoils are so powerful in the possession of their stolen gains, of the government patronage and of the irresponsible power they have usurped, that they are determined to retain their possession by all means, fair or foul, and to secure a renewal of their tenure by fraud, intimidation, bribery and bayonets, cost what it may. Let the British Republicans look upon this picture and remember that like causes produce like effects. We do not say that a monarchy would be desirable in this country, though we are likely to have an absolute one forced upon us, no matter under what name. But we feel sure that old England, which has hitherto so wisely and prosperously avoided the convulsions of revolution, would soon rue the day in which she abandoned her own institutions to try experiments which have led to such deplorable results in our country.

**What of the Future.**

Bountiful Autumn has come again, bringing its rich harvest to gladden the heart of man, and now, in the season of thanksgiving, it seems as if the great heart of mankind should arise with one impulse to render thanks to the Author of all good for His infinite blessings. But unfortunately for the human race, they are not satisfied to accept the gifts of God and to use them for good, and instead of universal gladness in the Christian world, at least, we find universal discontent with the present, and anxious foreboding for the future.

That such is the case in this country needs no demonstration. While we are exempt from some of the evils which afflict other centres of civilization, we are afflicted with others of our own creation. The general corruption in office, the oppression of one portion of the country by the other, the usurpations upon the liberties of the people, are only a few of those that could be enumerated. If we look around us we see at our doors Mexico once more abandoned to complete anarchy, and some of the South American republics in no better condition. In Europe there is universal uneasiness pervading every State and every class of society. This anxiety is felt not only in poor bleeding France, hampered, mutilated and despoiled, but even in hitherto peaceful and prosperous England, now trembling at the prospect of a social and political revolution. All over Europe the masses of the people are discontented with their social condition, and they manifest their dissatisfaction in a way that shows a determination to effect a change at any cost. Nor is this the only element of disgust. All the signs point to a general war, in comparison with which the last will appear almost insignificant. Preparations are making for it on a gigantic scale in Prussia and Russia, and the contest will be between those two nations for the supremacy in Europe. When they go to war all the others will be drawn into the vortex. All the European press correspondents seem to agree in predicting that the year 1872 will probably be the bloodiest of this century. While Russia is harassing the organization of her army upon a scale hitherto unprecedented, Prussia is strengthening all her fortresses upon her northeastern frontier, and purchasing immense quantities of arms and sheep-skins for her army, in view of a northern campaign. Maps of the Polish provinces have already been distributed among the Prussian officers, and they have been enjoined to study the Polish and Russian tongues. The language of the estate Bismarck before the Reichstag indicates that he expects war, and the action of that body in voting the Imperial war fund, proves that they share in the expectation.

It seems like madness for nations thus to plunge into war, for the acquisition of territory. It is against the dictates not only of Christianity, but of the plainest common-sense, for even in a successful war, the conquerors suffer nearly as much as the conquered. But still the stubborn fact remains, that nations will fight, and it is one of the strangest of mysteries that they do so for causes that are as utterly foreign to their real interests.

If wisdom could come more guide the policy of this country, while other nations are fighting out quarrels in which we have no concern, we might recover our lost prosperity. If only the party in power would cease persecuting our non-offending people, and would administer the government for the common benefit of the whole nation, hope would spring up again everywhere. Capital would flow where it is so much needed. The commercial marine of the United States would recover from its all-but mortal collapse, and would monopolize the trade of the world, while American agriculture and industry would feed, clothe and supply the rest of the civilized world. Then we might hope for real peace in this land that needs it so much. Unfortunately, judging from present indications, such a result is not to be expected from the dominant party of the country.

Mr. G. W. King, of Raleigh, has invented an improved combination spring and air gun.

**The Weldon Fair.**

We yield to our correspondent, "North State," what we may have had to say in regard to the Fair of the Roanoke and Tar River Agricultural Society. We endorse all he has so well said, and nothing more fully than his remarks in regard to the beauty of the ladies, with the assurance, however, that we have reached home safely, having passed through as dangerous a trial, during the previous evening, at a brilliant and magnificent wedding reception in Raleigh.

We are much gratified at the very great success of the Fair at Weldon, and the fine management by its officers. Governor CLARK, PETER E. SMITH, Esq., Captain R. T. FULGHUM, Vice-President of the Cape Fear Agricultural Association, and Captain JAS. R. THOMPSON, a member of the Executive Committee, were present and obtained many valuable articles for exhibition at our Fair. Mr. SMITH and Captain THOMPSON secured for them eleven several of the most valuable premiums offered at the Fair.

We regret that our time was so limited—that we had the opportunity of meeting with so few of our friends, and could not remain to participate in the pleasures of the "Hop." We feel assured that all enjoyed themselves to the full.

We return our thanks to Messrs. STONE, of Weldon and J. H. WHITAKER, of Edfield, officers of the Association, for very kindly attentions.

**North Carolina Baptist State Convention.**

[From Our Own Reporter.]

WEDNESDAY MORNING, NOV. 8, 1871.

This body met this day in Charlotte, N. C., at 10 o'clock, and the delegates were assembling at the Baptist Church. We saw a number of familiar faces among them—some whose names are household words among the Baptists of the State. Here is the earnest, thoughtful face of Dr. WINGATE, the able and eloquent Dr. WAKE FOREST, and the venerable Dr. H. H. PITCHER, the editor of the *Biblical Recorder*, J. H. MILLS. He is overflowing with health, and full of vigor, bodily and intellectual. Here is the solid, sober Haynes Lennon, Moderator of the Cape Fear Association, one of the very best and most efficient workers in the State. Dr. Brooks, of Wake Forest, is also present, and will probably be elected President of the Convention. Then we see J. D. HUFFMAN, Corresponding Secretary of the Convention, a man of high character and high ability, but a though full, scholarly student, with vast amount of energy and effective working power in that delicate, nervous organization. The venerable Elder Strader, with the frosts of many winters upon his head, sits there in the corner, his eyes dimmed, and his natural force not abated. The open, honest, transparent face of Jno. Mitchell greets us with a pleasant smile. He is one of the loveliest men, and most useful preachers in the State. Dr. Brooks, the President, takes the chair, and we have the usual devotional exercises—reading of the scriptures, singing and prayer. We miss some faces which we had hoped to see, among them the thoughtful, solemn-looking face of James Prentiss, of Newbern. We know that he is sick.

Elder J. L. Carroll, the former Secretary, having removed to Virginia since his election, Elder N. B. Cobb, of Shelby, is elected Secretary pro tem. Fayetteville church is ably represented by Elder W. B. Bland, a well known and able preacher, and one of the most solid theologians of his age in North Carolina. The Chowan Association sent Elder R. R. Overby, from Sawyer's Creek church, a sound, strong, sensible man, who has come here to work, and whose influence will be felt in the Convention. Elder Gantley of Hillsboro, who was one of the best chaplains in the Confederate army, sits there by Captain Graham, a sprightly young lawyer, a son of Governor Graham.

Some twenty Associations in the State are represented by delegates already in, and though the delegation is thin, there is much of the solid worth of the denomination present. The appearance of the body is such as to impress the observer with the idea that he is in the midst of an assembly of strong, sensible men of character and worth. Dr. Brooks is re-elected President of this forty-first session of the Convention. On assuming the Chair he makes a short address, giving encouragement to the body, regarding the condition and prospects of the Convention, and especially insisting upon the recuperative powers of the old North State, and upon the duties of the younger ministers to stick to the State, and to carry out the principles of the fathers of the denomination. He states that there are twelve young men now studying for the ministry at Wake Forest College.

The committee on Organization report 1st Vice President, Haynes Lennon; 2d, William James; 3d, N. B. Cobb; Recording Secretary, N. B. Cobb; Assistant, N. B. Broughton. Report adopted. Adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

**AFTERNOON SESSION.**

President Brooks in the chair. Committee of Arrangements reported the usual order of business, and recommended that Dr. Wingate and Elder J. C. Hiden be appointed to address the Convention to-morrow night on the subject of education. Dr. Brooks then read a report on Missions. It says that the old debts are provided for; that the Baptists of the State are uniting in the work; that much has been done, though very much remains to do. Some \$1,400 have been received for Foreign Missions. Several are missionaries have been employed in the State, and as much as \$1,600 have been expended. Some \$200 are now due the missionaries. A highly complimentary tribute is paid to Elder J. D. Huffman, the able and efficient Corresponding Secretary of the Convention. It is recommended that he be retained in office for another year. The report is a clear, well written and satisfactory paper. (Rev. A. D. Phillips, returned Missionary from Africa, is invited to a seat in the Convention, and receives the right hand of welcome from the President.) Different parts of the report are referred to special committees. Report on the table for further consideration. Dr. Hiden read a paper on the subject of Racial Extinction. Over \$1,000 have been raised for this object; the Board is out of debt, and has considerable means for future operations. A committee is appointed to report on the propriety of raising a Sunday School Board of the Convention to cooperate with the Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. Committee appointed to report on the propriety of establishing a Board on church extensions. Adjourned with prayer by Elder Phillips.

**NIGHT.**

A full house greets Dr. Wingate, who preaches an excellent sermon on "Going out into the high-ways and hedges, and compelling men to come in." Dr. W. is rich, eloquent and musical voice, and his ease and naturalness of delivery make a most favorable impression.

J. C. Hiden.

**Weldon Fair.**

WEDNESDAY, N. C., NOV. 8th, 1871.

**Weldon Fair.**—At the risk of invading the privacy of your Editor, who appeared in the Fair grounds here to-day, I must trouble you with a few paragraphs.

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I feel well satisfied that the Annual Fair of the Roanoke and Tar River Agricultural Society is designed to be the great Fair of the State. The thousands who were at the Fair in the Fair grounds here to-day, I must trouble you with a few paragraphs.

ty, then, is the sublimest world in our language. Do you deny it in all things, like the old Persians. You cannot do more, you should never have said so. Never let me and your mother wear one gray hair for any lack of duty on your part.

"Your affectionate father,"

"To G. W. Custis Lee."

**SOUTH CAROLINA ITEMS.**

Gen. Jubal A. Early was expected in Columbia on Thursday.

The Marion Crescent says: "Sale day was something like old times. A good deal of property was sold at good prices. The McClure-Hughes House and lot in the village, containing fourteen acres, brought \$2,026. Mr. W. C. McMillan was the purchaser. Other property was sold at lower figures."

The Charleston Courier says: "At an election held yesterday by the Society for the Relief of the Widows and Orphans of the Clergy of the Protestant Episcopal Church in South Carolina, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Theo. D. Wagner, President; Joseph D. Aiken, Vice President; James R. Pringle, Treasurer; E. Henry Frost, Secretary."

George Woods, alias Patrick Mahan, a law student in New York, formerly a writer at the Charleston Hotel, N. Y., got \$210 out of him out of the Charleston Hotel. He surrendered his valuables, worth about \$125, and was given quick dispatch on his return to New York.

The Southern Waterman regrets to learn that Mr. Henry Seymour, living some distance from the town of Sumner, was severely injured by a cut on his arm or leg, by a steam engine. He was in motion, and was terribly cut and mangled. Dr. J. J. Bos and ministered to the wounded and suffering man on Monday last.</